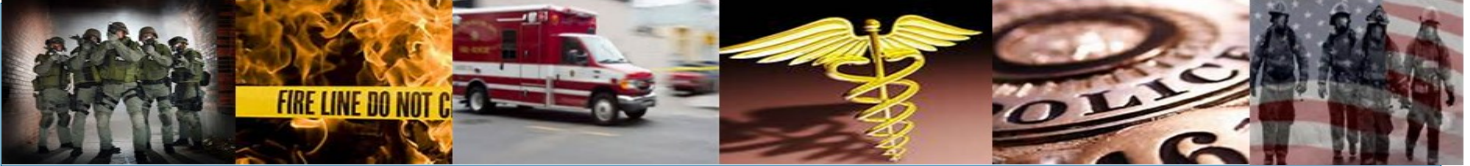


# Joint Counterterrorism Assessment Team (JCAT)



The Joint Counterterrorism Assessment Team (JCAT) newsletter is a summary of the activities of the JCAT. This monthly publication contains items of interest to Federal, State, Local and Tribal first responders to promote awareness. The inclusion of an item in this newsletter does not imply NCTC's official view or endorsement. The JCAT can be reached at 571-280-1307 or via email at: [jcat@nctc.gov](mailto:jcat@nctc.gov). We welcome your feedback and comments on this newsletter.

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## Director's Notes

This is our inaugural newsletter. NCTC is proud to introduce the JCAT and I want to devote this issue to highlighting the JCAT's mission, organization and products and services.

You may have heard of the ITACG – or Inter-agency Threat Assessment and Coordination Group. JCAT is the successor and will continue the momentum of ITACG, and to make sure relevant federal counterterrorism intelligence gets into the hands of those who need it in other non-federal jurisdictions. NCTC felt the mis-

sion is so vital that when Congress looked to cut funding for ITACG, we immediately began working with DHS and FBI to preserve the capability and ensure a state, local, tribal and private sector voice at NCTC. JCAT was born on 1 April 2013 and will build on the success of ITACG. I've been working counterterrorism issues for 20 years and in that time I have seen first-hand the success we have had in building strong, sustainable and useful CT partnerships both within the federal government and with our state and local, tribal and private sector part-

ners. Today we are full and true partners who have come a long way toward understanding each other's capabilities, needs and challenges. I believe we are very much headed in the right direction with the establishment of the JCAT and are excited to see it come to fruition. The sustainability of the JCAT is largely dependent on the participation and support of our SLTT partners. Check the JCAT website for details on how to apply for fellowship opportunities.

## Joint Counterterrorism Assessment Team - Mission



The mission of the Joint Counterterrorism Assessment Team (JCAT) is to improve information sharing and enhance public safety. In coordination with DHS and FBI, JCAT will collaborate with other

members of the Intelligence Community to research, produce, and disseminate counterterrorism intelligence products for federal, state, local and tribal government agencies and the private

sector and advocate for the counterterrorism intelligence requirements and needs of these partners throughout the Intelligence Community.

## Organization

NCTC, DHS, and FBI have established the Joint Counterterrorism Assessment Team (JCAT) as the successor organization to the Interagency Threat Assessment and Coordination Group (ITACG). ITACG was established in 2007 under the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act, which set the standard for information sharing between the Intelligence Community (IC) and State, local, tribal, territorial (SLTT), and private sector partners.

On 1 April 2013 the JCAT achieved initial operating capability and succeeded the ITACG as an NCTC-led partnership with DHS and FBI, while maintaining the mission focus of promoting counterterrorism information sharing between the IC and SLTT and private sector

communities. JCAT will continue to be located at NCTC, and will build upon close partnerships between NCTC, the DHS Office of Intelligence and Analysis, and FBI Directorate of Intelligence as it continues to leverage a successful model of interagency cooperation. The JCAT Chief will be appointed by the Director of NCTC, and be supported by two senior level officers as deputies: one from FBI and DHS. In addition, NCTC, DHS, and FBI each will contribute one federal intelligence analyst each to the JCAT and sponsor three representatives from the first responder community, for a total of nine members representing law enforcement, fire service, public

health, private sector, and other SLTT components. Going forward, the JCAT will research, draft, and collaborate with NCTC, DHS, and FBI for the joint production of counterterrorism and terrorism intelligence for Federal, SLTT, and private sector partners. JCAT will also advocate for the counterterrorism intelligence requirements for the SLTT community and foster an understanding of SLTT and private sector counterterrorism intelligence needs throughout the IC.



## Products and Services

### Intelligence Review and Collaborative Production

- Roll Call Release
- Fire Line
- Terrorism Summary
- Tear Line Advocacy
- NCTC Current Dissemination
- Guides, Handbooks, Recruiting Aids

### Partner Liaison and Outreach

- Joint Counterterrorism Awareness Workshops (JCTAWS)
- NCTC Field Reps
- Domestics DNI Reps
- Conferences
- Recruiting

### Intelligence Community Education

- Analyst Liaison and Collaborative Production
- Formal Course Participation
- Guest Speaker Engagement



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## Participating SLTT Agencies

**Arizona Department of Public Health**

**Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department**

**Fire Department City of New York**

**Philadelphia Police Department**

**Ohio Strategic Analysis and Information Center**

**Minneapolis Police Department**



**SLTT member typically serve a one year fellowship**

## Fellowship Opportunities

JCAT SLTT personnel collaborate with IC analysts for the purpose of integrating, analyzing, producing, and assisting in the dissemination of federally coordinated information within the scope of the information sharing environment. JCAT personnel leverage their expertise, particularly first responder knowledge and experience, to support a full range of intelligence production-related activities, as well as engaging and enhancing already existing projects and outreach programs designed to meet the information needs of SLTT customers.

JCAT efforts are led by NCTC in collaboration with DHS, and FBI. JCAT personnel work at the National Counterterrorism Center alongside NCTC, FBI, and DHS analysts and support staff.

Major Duties include, but are not limited to:

- Maintain a working knowledge of relevant terrorism, homeland security, and WMD issues.
- Enable the production of clear, relevant, "federally coordinated" threat information in a timely and consistent manner.
- Brief IC executives/managers/analysts at NCTC on an ad hoc basis.
- Participate in existing programs, outreach, and

Conferences to further enhance the awareness and understanding of the SLTP role in counterterrorism.

For more information on the JCAT and fellowship opportunities, please visit our website at

[http://www.nctc.gov/  
 jcat\\_index.html](http://www.nctc.gov/jcat_index.html)

## *Upcoming Events*

### **JCAT Plans to Participate in the Following Conferences and JCTAWS**

Ohio Crime Prevention Association Annual Conference Dublin, OH April 29– May 1

New York State Associations of Fire Chiefs Verona, NY June 12-15

\* JCTAWS - Seattle, WA June 18-19

National Sheriffs Association (NSA) Charlotte, NC June 22-26

Firehouse Expo Baltimore, MD July 25-27

Major City Chiefs Association Conference (Summer Meeting)

International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) Chicago, IL August 13-17

\* JCTAWS - Minneapolis, MN August 27-28

International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) Philadelphia, PA October 19-23

\* The Joint Counterterrorism Awareness Workshop Series (JCTAWS), are sponsored by NCTC, DHS, and FBI as a collaborative effort among federal, state, local, and private sector entities that enhances a regions preparedness to counter a complex terrorist attack.